Doors...





League of Women Voters of Montgomery County, MD

Montgomery County Civic Federation

Maryland-National Capital Building Industry Association

Greater Capital Area Association of Realtors

Housing Opportunities Commission

Montgomery County Commission on Aging

Montgomery County Commission on People with Disabilities*

Montgomery County
Department of Housing and Community Affairs

Montgomery County
Department of Health and Human Services

Montgomery County Office of Human Rights *Founding Organization

Alternative formats of this document are available upon request.

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http://permittingservices.montgomerycountymd.gov Click on Permitting/Building Construction.

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A Program of Montgomery County and Maryland-National Capital Building Industry Association

Opening

Access... in home design



... for all ages and stages of life

A Voluntary Certification Program for Visit-Ability and Live-Ability in Single Family Attached and Detached Homes

New Construction & Renovation



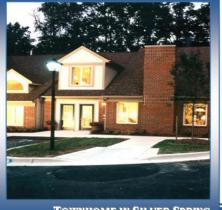
"Design For Life Montgomery identifies all the components necessary to ensure that a home can meet the diverse needs of many, be it a new mom with a baby stroller, a football player on crutches or empty-nesters who want to age in place ... new homes and existing homes can be designed to be visit-able or live-able, easily eliminating barriers. This program provides clear steps for homeowners, remodelers and builders to utilize life-enhancing design features in their homes." ~ Maryland National Capital Building Industry Association

Introduction

Design For Life Montgomery is a voluntary program developed to increase the number of single family attached and detached homes that include accessible design features important to our growing and diverse community.

To support this effort, the County Executive introduced Zoning Text Amendment 06-17, Accessibility Improvements-Exemption, which was enacted by the Montgomery County Council in July 2006. ZTA 06-17 permits builders and homeowners to modify access to homes "by right" rather than requiring them to submit to the Board of Appeals for a zoning variance.

Homebuilders and homeowners need to apply to the Montgomery County Department of Permitting Services to have a home certified in new construction or renovation. Existing homes are encouraged to apply.



Level One: Visit-Ability

One no step entrance makes it easier and safer to bring in a baby stroller, move in large furniture, or invite a child or an adult to visit who cannot use steps.



A Visit-Able home has...

- One no step entry at the front door, back door, side door (any door), deck or through the garage attached to an accessible route from a sidewalk or driveway.
- All interior passage doors with a minimum of 32 inches of clear passage space, on the accessible floor, including bathrooms.
- 36 inches wide, at least, circulation path (hallways) that connect to a powder room/ bathroom and one other room that can accommodate visits.
- A powder room/bathroom with maneuvering space. A 5' clear floor space is not required.

Level Two: Live-Ability

Whether you are a first time homebuyer, young family, career professional, active adult or a person living with a temporary or permanent disability, your home will be enhanced by these additional design features which will meet your needs for the rest of your life.



Photo Courtesy of Louis Tenenbaum

A Live-Able home has...

- All the design features of a Visit-Able home plus,
- At least one bedroom, full bath, and kitchen with a circulation path that connects the rooms to an accessible entrance.



Rendering Courtesy of Winchester Homes

"The program is a sweeping and pace setting one for the entire country. This program recognizes that quality of life for everyone - young and old, able or disabled, is a major consideration in purchasing a home, and that efforts to meet the needs of all of our citizens is a very meaningful step. The Design for Life Montgomery program will certainly make the job of real estate professionals easier as we seek to meet the needs of all our clients and customers."

> ~ Brenda Small, 2007 President Greater Capital Area Association of Realtors®



Photo Courtesy of www.DisabilityGuide.org

"The League of Women Voters of Montgomery County (LWVMC) supports the production of barrier free or accessible housing as a voluntary effort on the part of the home-building industry. LWVMC fully supports the **Design for Life Montgomery** program which will provide more barrier free and accessible homes for everyone." ~ Melpomeni Jeffries, League of Women Voters of Montgomery County

TOWNHOME IN SILVER SPRING